

Wellesley's Public Transportation Guide



This guide provides information on accessing many public and alternative transportation modes available in Wellesley. Read below to learn how you can access:

Table of Contents

CATCH Connect (MWRTA micro-transit)	1
Commuter Rail (MBTA)	2
MBTA Rapid Transit Green Line (D) (The "T" Green Line D)	3
Route 1 Bus (M-F, MWRTA)	4
Using Google Maps	5
Wellesley Council on Aging Bus Service	6
The MetroWest RIDE (MWRTA)	7
Boston Hospital Shuttle (MWRTA)	8
College Student Transportation	8
Ride Hailing and Ride Sharing	9
Walking and Biking	9
More Info	10

[CATCH Connect \(MWRTA micro-transit\)](#)

App based on-demand ride-share service, similar to Uber or Lyft, serving Wellesley and select destinations outside of Wellesley provided by the MetroWest Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA). Riders who do not have access to a smart phone may call (508) 283-5083.

Where to?

- Any location in Wellesley
- Newton Wellesley Hospital, Newton
- Woodland and Waban Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) rapid transit stations, Newton
- Natick Community Center – making connections to other bus lines serviced by MWRTA, Natick
- MBTA Commuter Rail Station, Needham Heights – note this station is fully ADA accessible
- Trader Joe's, Needham Heights

Connects to other transit systems:

- =MBTA Framingham/Worcester Commuter Rail Line via Wellesley Square, Wellesley Hills, or Wellesley Farms Commuter Rail Stations (not ADA accessible) Needham line via Needham Heights (ADA accessible)
- MBTA Rapid Transit Green Line via Woodland or Waban "T" Station
- MWRTA Route 1 at Woodland Station
- MWRTA Routes 10 & 11 at Natick Community Center

View the service map [here](#).

Vehicles are typically Ford Transit vans, and all vehicles are fully compliant with the American Disabilities Act (ADA).

Hours/Holidays:

- Monday through Friday. 6:45 a.m. to 6:45 p.m.
- 10 to 30-minute average wait time for pick up (possibly longer at peak times)

Catch Connect service is not available on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Patriots Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day

How to Book:

Use the [MWRTA Catch App](#) on a smartphone or call the MWRTA customer service center at 508-283-5083 to book your trip. Rides are first-come, first-served. You must be ready at the time you book to be picked up (advance reservations are not accepted). Once Catch Connect assigns you a trip, you will receive an estimated time of arrival (ETA) and you can track the vehicle with the Catch Connect app as the vehicle makes its way to you.

Cost:

- Flat fee of \$2.00/ride deducted from the rider account upon ride completion
- Payment options available with a "Catch Card" that is tied into the MWRTA Catch App
- Riders booking Catch Connect trips via phone must set up an MWRTA account to pre-load funds
- The MWRTA no longer accepts payments by Charlie Card

Bags/Luggage:

Limited to four shopping bags or three pieces of luggage (under 40 lbs. each).

[Commuter Rail \(MBTA\)](#)

617-222-3200

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) train service to Boston and its metropolitan area.

Where to?

Commuter Rail stations in Wellesley access trains that run between Worcester and South Station. See the MBTA Worcester/Framingham line [web page](#) for information about the route.

Access:

Wellesley residents can walk, bike, take Catch Connect or drive and park at three stations to access the Worcester/Framingham line: Wellesley Square, Wellesley Hills, and Wellesley Farms. All stations have bike rack facilities. Visit the MBTA [website](#) for schedule information and route maps.

Hours:

The MBTA now offers bi-directional “Clock Face Scheduling” where weekday trains run at the same, dependable time, hourly throughout the day. Service enhancements scheduled for October 2, 2023 increase the frequency of peak train service to every 45 minutes and run later trains in the evenings. The schedules will be posted on the [MBTA website](#).

Cost:

Fares vary. Use the MBTA mTicket app or visit the [MBTA website](#) to learn more about commuter rail fares, passes, and purchase options. The MBTA offers discounted fares for seniors, people with disabilities, students, and low-income adults. Customers who are blind or have low vision ride for free, and up to two children 11 and under ride for free with each fare-paying adult. Commuter rail passes are valid on the entire MBTA bus, subway, and ferry network.

MBTA Rapid Transit [Green Line \(D\)](#) (The “T” Green Line D)**Where to?**

Green Line trains go to Newton, Brookline, the Longwood medical area, and arts and cultural destinations in Boston.

Access:

Wellesley residents can go to four nearby stations: Riverside and Woodland (both ADA accessible), Waban, and Eliot. Visit the MBTA Green Line [webpage](#) for schedule information and route maps.

- Catch Connect bus goes to Woodland and Waban Green Line (D) Stations
- The RIDE goes to Woodland and Riverside Green Line (D) Stations
- COA bus goes to Woodland Green Line (D) Stations (maybe?)
- The Route 1 bus runs from the Natick mall to Woodland station with stops in Wellesley on route 9, at Cross Street, at Babson College and Mass Bay Community College.

Hours:

- Riverside 4:45 a.m. - 12:04 a.m.
- Union Square 4:50 a.m. - 12:38 a.m.
- Trains depart every 6 - 12 minutes

Cost:

Fares vary. Use the MBTA mTicket app or visit the [MBTA website](#) to learn more about train fares, passes, and purchase options. The MBTA offers discounted fares for seniors, people with disabilities, students, and low-income adults. Customers who are blind or have low vision ride for free, and up to two children age 11 and under ride for free with each fare-paying adult.

Route 1 Bus (M-F, MWRTA)

617-222-3200

Fixed route bus service in Wellesley provided by the MWRTA.

How to catch the Route 1 Bus?

The Route 1 bus has three permanent stops and uses the “flag down” system.

Wait at one of three stops in Wellesley :

- Oak Street
- Cross Street in Wellesley Square
- Babson College - Knight Lot
- MassBay Community College
 - [MassBay Community College Shuttle](#) provides service from Riverside T stop to MassBay Community College.

On return trips, the Route 1 bus will follow the reverse route from the Woodland T station through Wellesley.

Use the "**flag down**" system; wave down a bus in transit along the route and the bus driver will stop and allow you to board.

Access:

- The Route 1 Bus timetable and service map can be found [here](#).
- Scheduled times are approximate. Riders are encouraged to arrive at the bus stop approximately ten minutes ahead of time.

Hours:

Monday through Friday, 5:30 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.; Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. There is no service on Sundays or the following holidays: New Year’s Day, Patriots Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

Cost:

Fares for fixed route buses vary. See the MWRTA [web page](#) for more information regarding fares. Pay by cash using a preloaded CatchCard or by purchasing a monthly pass. CatchCards are available from Fixed Route drivers and at the MWRTA Central Hub at 15 Blandin Ave., Framingham MA 01702. Riders can obtain a monthly pass at the Central Hub. Riders with a CatchCard can obtain a monthly pass via the Catch App.

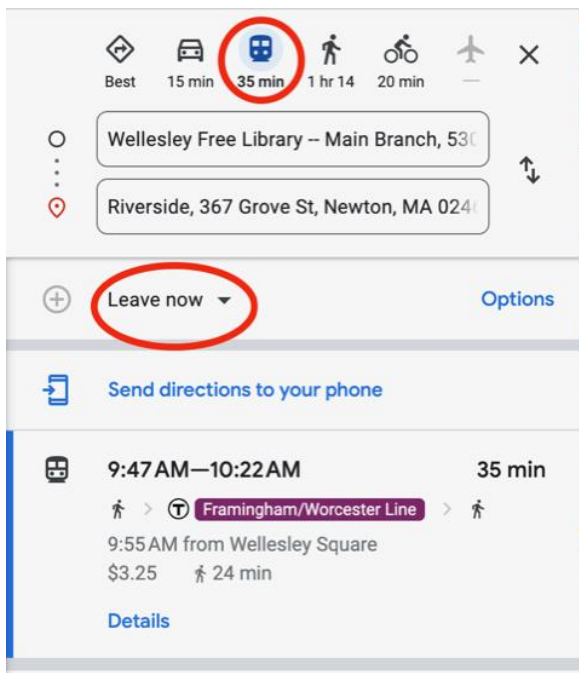
Revisions to Route 1 service coming September 11, 2023 – click [here](#)

Route 1 Bus Map



Using Google Maps

[Google Maps](#) can be used to locate bus stops, “T” stations, commuter rail stations, and routes described above. Simply type in your destination and select the “transit” mode to find the quickest and most recommended route. Google Maps will even warn you with a small hazard icon if there are any schedule changes along the route.



Wellesley Council on Aging Bus Service

Phone number: 781-235-3961, Email coatransportation@wellesleyma.gov

Free door to door bus service for Wellesley senior citizens.

Where to?

- Any destination in Wellesley
- Newton-Wellesley Hospital
- Newton-Wellesley Psychiatry
- Woodland “T” Stop
- MetroWest Medical Center in Framingham
- Leonard Morse Hospital, Natick
- Mass General Brigham Urgent Care
- Beth Israel Deaconess Lahey Primary Care
 - 372 Washington Street, Wellesley
 - 816 Highland Avenue, Needham
 - 310 Chestnut Street, Needham
- Doctor’s Offices, 105 Chestnut Street, Needham
- Natick Senior Center – MWRTA Fixed Bus Hub

The COA prioritizes certain destinations at specified times as reflected in the schedule below.

	Mornings 8:45 am – 12 pm	Afternoons 12:00 pm – 3:30 pm
MONDAY	Any approved destination	
TUESDAY	Any approved destination	Food Pantry
WEDNESDAY	Grocery Trip	Any approved destination
THURSDAY	Any approved destination	
FRIDAY	Grocery Trip	Any approved destination

How to Book:

Visit the Council on Aging transportation [webpage](#) for information on how to complete the rider application or call the COA at (781) 235-3961. Book trips by calling the MWRTA call center at 508-820-4650; reservations can be made 2 to 14 days in advance. You will receive a confirmation call from the MWRTA Reservations Call Center one day prior to your trip, prior to 9 p.m., to give you your pick-up time.

Hours:

Service hours are between 8:45 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Cost:

Free for Wellesley seniors

The MetroWest RIDE (MWRTA)

(508) 935-2222

ADA shared ride service for Wellesley, Framingham, Natick, and Dover residents who cannot independently access fixed route buses.

Where to?

The MW RIDE mimics the normal MWRTA bus routes but will make stops to pick up riders along a deviated route. It also offers special out-of-area trips to Boston.

Eligibility:

To be eligible to use the RIDE, individuals must apply for approval. Please call 508-820-4650 to request an application.

How to Book:

Approved riders can call the MW RIDE Call Center at (508) 820-4650 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., seven days a week, including holidays, to make a trip reservation. Trips may be booked up to two weeks in advance and may not be booked later than 4:00 p.m. the day prior to the trip request.

Call the MW RIDE Call Center at (508) 820-4650 for information on how to schedule out-of-area trips to Boston.

If your trip includes a transfer, make the reservation by 3:00 p.m. the day prior to the trip. You will receive an automated call the evening before your scheduled trip (prior to 9:00 p.m.) with your times for the next days' trips.

See the MetroWest RIDE [Guide](#) for more information.

Subscription service:

MW RIDE passengers who make a trip reservation that starts at the same place and ends at the same destination at the same time, three or more days a week, are eligible to participate in the paratransit subscription service. Through the subscription, your trips will be automatically scheduled, which eliminates the need to call in advance for each trip. Contact the MW Call Center to inquire about this service option.

Hours:

Same as the MWRTA fixed route bus [service](#).

Cost: Flat fee of \$2.00/ride deducted from your MetroWest RIDE service account which must be made with the Call Center at (508) 820-4650 prior to booking a trip. Personal Care Attendants (PCAs) ride for free.

Boston Hospital Shuttle (MWRTA)

1-508-820-4650

A shuttle service provided by the MWRTA.

Where to?

West Roxbury and the Jamaica Plain Veteran's Affairs (V.A.) facilities, New England Baptist Hospital, Brigham & Women's Hospital, Beth Israel Hospital, Dana Farber Medical Center, Joslin Clinic, and New England Deaconess Hospital.

How to Book:

Shuttle riders must fill out the [registration form](#) and set up a fare account before using the service. Registration forms can either be mailed to the MWRTA at 15 Blandin Avenue Framingham, MA 01702 or faxed 1-508-935-2940. Wellesley residents have the option of being picked up and dropped off at their homes (depending on the bus schedule). See the shuttle schedule [here](#).

Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Cost:

Charged through a pre-pay debit system. Value can be added by check, credit card, or cash. For questions, contact MWRTA Central Reservations at 1-508-820-4650.

College Student Transportation

Wellesley's colleges offer various transportation options to their students and faculty to get around Wellesley and get to other nearby destinations. Click links below for details.

[Babson College](#)

[Olin College](#)

[MassBay Community College](#)

[Wellesley College](#)

Ride Hailing and Ride Sharing

Ride hailing service companies such as [Uber](#) and [Lyft](#) offer drivers to take you around Wellesley and beyond. Prices are predetermined and fixed based on your route. These services can be ordered online or through an app. For a lower price, riders can opt to share the ride with another rider.

[Zipcar](#) is a service that allows you to book cars near your location. Bookings can be by the hour or day through the Zipcar app. Pricing varies depending on the car and length of booking, but gas and dedicated parking are included.

For Taxi services, call one of the following:

JFK Taxi (508) 653-4500

Metro Cab (617) 782-5500 (accessible/wheelchair ready taxis available)

Natick Cab Company (508) 653-2300

Newton Yellow Cab (617) 332-7700

The AirPorter (by reservation only) (781) 899-6161 or toll-free (877) 899-6161

Wellesley Transportation (781) 235-2200

Walking and Biking

Explore the 29 miles of marked trails and 18 more miles of unmarked trails that Wellesley has to offer using the [MapWellesley Trails Viewer](#) or by searching Google maps “Walking and Biking” directions for the fastest and most recommended routes. Woodland trails are marked with purple arrows, and interconnecting trails feature uniquely colored arrows. Routes will connect you to libraries, train stations, and two business districts.

Most places in Wellesley such as the library, schools, and Whole Foods, have bike racks for you to secure your bike. Additionally, the Wellesley Police Department offers a free bike repair station and pump in case you have a flat tire.

Visit this [page](#) for more information on walking, jogging, and biking options in and around Wellesley.

Wellesley Grand Tour



More Info

Visit [Wellesley's Sustainable Mobility Plan](#) and [Climate Action Plan](#) to learn more about initiatives that target additional mobility options.

Visit the Public Transportation pages on the [Town of Wellesley website](#) for detailed information on transportation options.